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PLANNING

community development

(April 1973)

APR 8 1973

news bulletin

No. 2

Montana Division of Planning
and Economic Development
Dept. of Intergovernmental Relations
(406) 449-3757

Proposed Revenue Sharing regulations were published in the Federal Register late last month, Feb. 22.

One regulation--funds may be used by cities and counties to retire indebtedness, but...must be one of priority expenditures;

...not for interest incurred because of a debt;

...only for debt expenditures made after January 1, 1972;

...plus other revenue sharing limitations apply

(The Division has published answers to common and not-so-common questions asked about revenue sharing--copies are available free.)

Federal budget talk is much in the news, but often unreported is good news--HUD 701 planning grants are proposed to be increased 10%.

As more county planning boards are formed, Meagher County elected the first known woman president. Nancy Berg of White Sulphur Springs will lead the board in planning orderly growth.

But Missoula city-county planning director Dave Crow has resigned to take a position at Clarksville, Tenn. Crow's new position is said to offer the planning director more authority and opportunity. Orin Ostagaard will serve as acting director at Missoula.

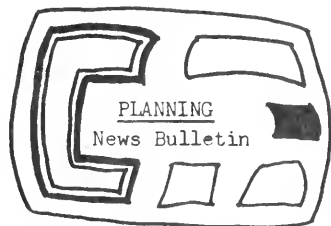
The Flathead Areawide Planning Organization is complete. Holdout, Columbia Falls, changed its mind and decided to join the APO this month. By using the APO, communities in Flathead County are pooling manpower and finances to attack planning problems.

Subdivision regulations are receiving more county attention. Beaverhead County Planning Board is currently undertaking a study to develop regulations. State regulations received tough going in legislature--but did pass.

Ravalli County just completed membership appointments to their planning board and is now beginning to move.

Federally funded projects requiring environmental impact statements are processed through this office, our State Clearinghouse. The Montana Environmental Quality Council is responsible for statements concerning state funds, lands or state agencies. Further questions can be answered by contacting this office, Lloyd Meyer.

New land use mapping techniques--using a computer to draw maps and overlays of most any type data--are being featured in a new magazine, Executive West, published in Denver and due off the press shortly. The technique was developed by this state Planning and Economic Development Division, Tom Dundas and Gary Rogers. A prototype was made of Helena north-east valley.



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State population trends and movements as reported recently by the Upper Midwest Council will be more thoroughly explained in a series of slide/panel/discussion presentations sponsored jointly by the council and this division with local chamber of commerces throughout Montana. Dates and places not firm yet, but some time in April and June in 6-10 cities.

State legislation will be reported fully within next few weeks now that session is over. Note that HB 422 relating to planning board jurisdiction was passed. HB 424 expanding planning board definition and setting mill levy was held to '74.

Planning meetings scheduled for Great Falls, April 9-10, and Billings, April 12-13 are two-day workshops in planning sponsored by Mont. Assn. of County Commissioners and MSU Extension Service using Title I Higher Education Act, HUD financing. Contact Verne House, MSU, 994-3511 for details of program.

PERSONS desiring to receive this bulletin should contact the Planning Division, also any Planning Board member address changes should be sent in.

PLANNING News Bulletin is supported through a Federal Urban Planning Grant from the Department of Housing and Urban Development, under the provisions of Section 701 of the Housing Act of 1954, as amended.

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